

**GLOBAL AUTHENTICATION CONTINUITY FEATURE FOR HANDOFF  
TO A NEIGHBORING MOBILE SWITCHING CENTER**

**Abstract**

The global authentication continuity feature uses a new ANSI-41 message, the AUTHENTICATION GLOBAL DATA message, to convey global authentication information to the Mobile Switching Center that has just become the serving Mobile Switching Center due to a handoff. This provides continuity of the global authentication process, even though the mobile subscriber wireless communication device hands-off to another Mobile Switching Center. The information that is passed forward from the Visited Location Register of the previous serving Mobile Switching Center to the new serving Mobile Switching Center could be RANDShared Secret Data to perform a Shared Secret Data update, RANDU/AUTH to perform an Unique Challenge, Voice Privacy Masks, and Signal Encryption Keys.